

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims are 1-2, 4-5, and 8-11. Claims 3, 6, and 7, which the Examiner indicated contained allowable subject matter, have been rewritten in independent form by amending claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 3 and by adding new claims 10 and 11, corresponding to claims 6 and 7, respectively. Accordingly, claims 3, 6, and 7 have been canceled, and claims 4 and 5, which previously depended on claim 3, have been amended to depend on claim 1. In addition, claims 2, 4-5, and 8-9 have been amended to improve their form. Reconsideration is expressly requested.

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In response, Applicant has amended claim 1 to improve its form. It is respectfully submitted that all currently pending claims fully comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection on that basis be withdrawn.

Claims 1-2 and 8-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Weber DE 3611125 A1* and under 35 U.S.C.

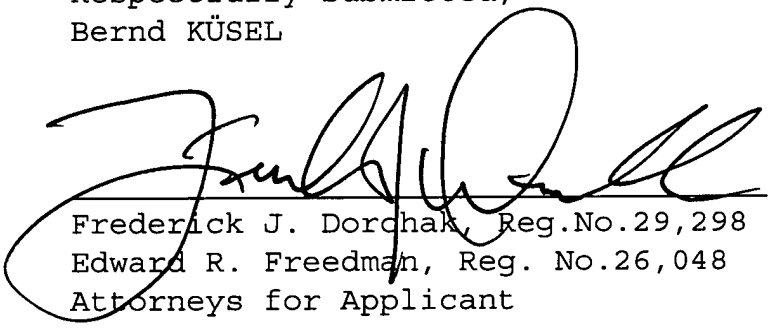
§ 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Schnell* WO 2005/023688 in view of *Hueser* DE 19532010 A1. The Examiner also indicated, however, that claims 3-7 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, without conceding the propriety of the Examiner's rejections and in order to expedite prosecution of this case, Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 3, has rewritten claims 6 and 7 as new independent claims 10 and 11, respectively, has amended claims 4 and 5 which previously depended on claim 3 to depend on claim 1 as amended, and has canceled claims 3, 6, and 7. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are now in condition for allowance.

In summary, claims 1-2, 4-5, and 8-9 have been amended, claims 3, 6, and 7 have been canceled, and new claims 10-11 have been added. In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the claims be allowed and that this application be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,
Bernd KÜSEL

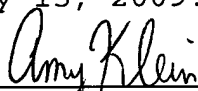
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